THE NEW YORK PRESS.

ELITORIAL OPINIONS OF LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS.

CONFILED LYERY DAY FOR LYENING TELEGRAPH.

Without Newspapers.

From the Tribune. A printers' strike lately reduced Richmond to that state of moral blessedness and social security which Mr. Henry A. Wise once complacently claimed for his own Congressional Distriet. For a little while there were no newspapers in Richmond; and, strange to say, the deficiency does not seem to have been relished, even by the most low-spirited admirers of that bygone age which both created and consoled Mr. Wise. In the absence of definite information, rumor had it all its own wild way. Canards flews as thickly as Homer's flies around a milking-pail; the rural districts were severish with falsehoods for which nobody was responsible; the city swarmed with peripatetic retailers of quite ideal intelligence, and he who could talk the loudest and the longest, and tell the toughest story, became the great

man of the groggery and the revered prophet of the barber's shop To a bewildered people, it was as if printing had never been invented; and, whatever may have heretolore been the sublime induference of Richmond to the existence of the nineteenth century, it was not a little embarrassed by this sudden revival of middle-age wants and monkish expedients; and, when an adjustment of their difficulties enabled the newspapers once more to appear, we may be sure that they brought a sense of relief and a palpable promotion of the public serenity. And this little event reminds us of what would be the condition of our own beloved city and its environs, if morning, and noon, and evening publications should come to a sudden stand-still, and the clatter of Mr. Hoe's machines be no longer heard in Printing-House Square. There are hypercritical gentlemen who not only fa-tidiously condemn the literary execution of newspapers (of the difficulties attending which they know and can know nothing), but who go further, and insinute solemn doubts of their moral influence — who regard them as at best a necessary evi.; out who, nevertheless, take them, pay for them and read them, who are unhappy with them, but would be still more unhappy witn-out them. It is only the man who pleases to divest himself of all social relations and responsibilities who would wish to remain in igno-rance of events. A hermit living fifty miles from a respectable cook-shop, upon parched peas and messes of herbs, who never changes his shirt, and goes always barefooted, is naturally indifferent to the fluctuations of the cattle market, eares nothing for the rise and fall of cotton, and has a spirit elevated far above the vicis-situdes of leather. Having satisfied himself that his soul is to be saved by frequent flagellations and intrequent ablutions, he no more wants even a religious journal than he wants soap or a finetoothed comb, Convinced that the world is rushing to ultimate perdition, his only care is not to be swept along by the current, while from his high and dry point of advan-tage he looks into an unearthly future, and forgets, so far as possible, that he has many millions of fellow-creatures. We cannot imagine Saint Simeon Stylites taking in the Tribune or any other newspaper; but men who differ from that worthy, who do not live by themselves upon the tops of pillars, do not shun the sight of the human face and the sound of the human voice, do not ignore common duties, and are rationally gregarious, will need a newspaper as much as they need a towel or a tailor. There are some things which, solitary and alone, we can do for curselves; but the majority of human enterprises depend for their success upon an enlightened knowledge of what the world has done, or is doing, in the same field and direction. This alone can pre-vent constant mistakes, the misdirection of emergy, the repetition of obsolete experiments, most immentable failures, or clumsy and round-about achievements. So, too, it a man pleases to accept relations to a government, and to put himself and his family and his property under its pro-tection, he is as directly interested in the omis-sions and commissions of that Government as in the outgoings and incomings of his household servants or of his journeymen. He should be a hamed not to vote; but he should be still more ashamed to vote ignorantly or blindly, or as the mere tool of a sharper-eyed man than him-self. Voting presupposes the making-up of one's mind; and that in turn presupposes a basis of facts for the decision. This it is the business of the newspaper to furnish. But this is not a l. Newspapers are naturally advocates. The statement and the detense of opinion necessatily follow the widest possession of facts, and the largest survey of public affairs. In this re-spect, newspapers should be the helpers but never the masters of their readers, the vehicles of suggestive discussion, the winnowers of truth from falsehood, the vehement antagonists of error, the earnest defenders of the right. This is what they are, if not

Nobody can be better aware of the deficiencies of the daily papers than we are; but will our worst critics be pleased to imagine the country without newspapers at all?—the doubts, the nervous anxieties, the blind ignorance, the thick-thronging blunders, the misappr hensions, the purposeless activity, the indecisive inertia which would follow. The public journal is the public memory, the diary of society, everybody's ledger and commonplace book and suppose the common of the common book and almenae; and without it, until a sub-stitute had been found, everything would be at cross-purposes and confusion

in practice, most certainly in theory; and it is just in proportion as they are true to this

high standard that they are useful or otherwise

But they have no protection against the influences of passion, of prejudice, or of venality. As they are mechanically the masterpleces of human ingenuity, so something of human infirmity attaches to them in their best estate;

and they must be accepted by the public, which depends so much upon them, not as oracles

incapable of mistake, but as entitled to that

tious circumstance, men will long continue to

read a newspaper for which they have no very lively respect; but they laugh at it in their

sleeves or in their speech, and risk neither their

money nor their reputation for sagacity upon

its soundness.

Tennessee in Congress.

From the Times. On Monday we had a fine illustration of the style in which Congress has abdicated its constitutional functions in regard to the admission of its members. It is now six or eight weeks since Mr. Bingham, on behalf of the Reconstruction Committee, reported a resolution providing for the admission of Tennessee into the Union. He has been called on two or three times to call it up for consideration, and has half promised every time to do so "soon," but has never done it. When the matter was pressed upon Congress at the outset of the session, it upon Congress at the outset of the session, it was urged that information was wanted—that the Committee was taking testimony as to the fitness of Tennessee for readmission, and that nothing could be done until this was closed. Yet nearly two months have clapsed since the testimony was reported printed, and laid before Congress and the country, and still not the slightest disposition is manifested by the Committee or by Congress to give the matter any attention.

Mr. Latham, a Union member from West Virginia, on Monday offered some resolutions for the action of Congress upon this subject. They were promptly ruled out of order by the Speaker!

The whole matter was in the hands of the Committee on Reconstruction, and it was out of order for the House to attempt to do or say any thing about it. When the Committee sees fit to call the subject up, it has a right to do so; until

then Congress is jowerless.

Tennessee has had a State Government, regu larly elected by the loyal people, under a constitution republican in form, with Courts sluly organized and in Iuli operation, for the last two years. Her people have sent, as their representatives to Congress, as loyal, true hearted, and trustworthy men as live on the lace of the earth—able and ready to take the test-oath—men who have perilled life and everything dear to them for the salvation of the Union, and who represent constituencies equally loyal and well-disposed. Every one of these facts is clearly established by the testimony taken by the Reconstruction Committee; and every witness sum moned by that committee, without a solitary exception, testified in the most direct and emphane terms that the admission of these loyal members would have the best possible effect is developing and strengthening the loyal senti-ment of Tennessee and every other Southern State. Yet the Reconstruction Committee will neither do anything, nor suffer Congress to do anything, towards bringing about this most

How much longer is this state of things to be continued? What possible good purpose does

The Withdrawal of the French from Mexico-The Official Notification.

From the Herald. We have the information from Washington that Count Montholon, the French Minister, on Saturday last waited upon the Secretary of State and "presented the formal adhesion of the French Government to the American principle of non-intervention as explained by our Government;" that the Emperor Napoleon kindly and cordially replies to the United States, and engages to withdraw his troops in three detachments, one of them next November, and the others in May and November, 1867. An abstract of the correspondence on the subject, in auswer to a recent resolution of the House of Representatives, was laid before that body on Monday

by Secretary Seward.

Accepting these promises of Napoleon in good faith, and with the full behelf that he has relinquished the "grand idea" successed by Marshal Forey, we may now consider the Mexican question settled in layor of the Monroe doctrine We accept the engagement to withdraw the French troops as the surrender of the whole case by Napoleon, the inevitable alternative resulting nom the downtall of Jeff. Davis. Upon this point it is not unlikely that in the outset Napoleon was led astray by the dazzling repre seniations of Slidell of the monopoly of American commerce by a Southern confederacy, and a French protectorate in Mexico, established under a firm alliance on the basts of free trade, Napoleof, however, is prepared for a graceful retirement. He talls back upon his Mexican indemnities. For these he looks to Maximilian, and to secure them he delays the recall of the last instalment of the French troops till Novem-

In the interval Maximilian must "make his bay while the sun shines;" but as it appears that no French remforcements are going in to supply his losses in the field, we shall not be surprised if the removal of the first detachment were to start his Imper al Majesty of Mexico out of "the halls of the Montezumas" on the road to Vera Cruz. The Liberals, in some mys terious way, are beginning to be supplied with efficient arms, and from their present activity between Matamoras and Mazatlau we are u clined to think that the departure of the first instalment of the French will be the signal for a combination of Liberal movements which will give them their capital.

It must be remembered, meantime, that, ac-cording to Nap leon, the Government of Maximilian is a creation of the Mexican people, as expressed in a special election in the presence of the French troops. After the withdrawal of those troops, therefore, and the settlement of certain French indemnities, it the Mexican people should formbly expel or earnestly invite Maximilian to remain and rule over them, it is their affair, and not Naroleon's. He is pledged to the French people, after the fashion of the Eonapartes, to respect the popular will. Thus the nephew and his uncle were each confirmed as Emperor of the French, and thus Maximilian, the popular will, as the French have been made to understand it. is Emperor of Mexico. While Napoleon, then, withdraws his troops in deterence to the United States, he leaves Maximilian still subject to the will of the Mexican

This is doubtless the understanding between Louis Napoleon and Andrew Jonnson, and we incline to the opinion that it will be perfectly satisfactory to President Juarez and the Mexicans. In "the formal adhesion of the French Covernment to the American principle of nonintervention" we secure all that we desire from Napoleon, and it would be absurd to suppose that Austria, with or without his consent, would undertake to establish a transatlantic imperial protectorate which Napoleon has formally abanoned as a blunder and a failure.

It is stated that the Secretary of State has given instructions to our Minister at Vienna reearding the sending of Austrian soldiers to Mexico, and that he protests against such action in terms that cannot be very well misunderstood by the Austrian Government.

Qualifications of Members of Congress. From the Daily News.

The more moderate and honest of those members of Congress who, while they support the credit which, by an average of sagacity and of honest dealing with their readers, they may have spent many years in earning. It is em-phatically its general character which gives the newspaper a public influence. It is true that, either trem habit or some other adventimeasures of the radical leaders, are yet unwilling to admit that, in so doing, they are not only overriding the Constitution, but trampling into the dust all the great principles which have given vitality to our institutions and made us a great and prosperous people, find themselves hard put to it to find arguments to justify their course, even to their own consciences. And it frequently happens that they have no resource but to shelter their acts under some broad asser-tion of a general principle, which, under different circumstances, they would hesitate to make, and which, if their judgments were not clouded by the mists of prejudice and the fumes of passion, they would see to have no adequate founcation either in fact or law.

One of the most striking of these is to be found in the argument by which they justify the expulsion of Mr. Stockton and the rejusal to admit the Senators and Representatives from the Southern States to their seats in the Houses to which they are respectively accredited. The clause of the Constitution which provides that each House shall be the judge of the election, returns, and qualifica-tions of its own members, gives us, say these gentlemen, absolute power over the whole subject. There is no limitation whatever to our discretion. This, it seems to us, is a radical error, and one whose mischievous consequences are incalculable. Even where a grant quences are incalculable. Even where a grant of power is made without any limitations expressed, its exercise is always to be controlled by a sound discretion, and ought not to be stretched to suit the caprices of those in whose hands the power is, for the time being, lodged. And it is, moreover, necessarily limited by precedent, and by those implied restrictions which may be reduced by reasonable construction from the terms of the grant itself. And it seems to us that there is, in the Constitution itself, a very material limiin the Constitution itself, a very material limi-tation upon the absolute powers claimed under the clause referred to. Nearly the whole of the first article of the Constitution is devoted to the legislative department of the Government, and it provides, seriatim, who shall be represented, how they shall be represented, what shall be the how they shall be represented, what shall be the powers and duties of the representatives, etc. Ali its sections are, therefore, in pari materia, and should be construed together. Now, the second section defines the qualifications of a member of the lower House, and the third section in like manner defines the qualifications of a Senator. Suppose a Senator presents himself for admission, with proper credentials, and a doubt arises whether he possesses the constitu-

tional qualifications, which, in the case of a Schator, are that he must be thirty years old, that he must have been nine years a citizen of the United States, and that he must have been, at the time of his election, an inhabitant of the State he assumes to represent how is it to be settled? Who shall investigate and dee de whether he does or does not possess the requisite qualifications?

The framers of the Constitution, anticipating that such a case might arise, provided in the lifth section that the House to which the appli-cant was accredited should have power to decide the point. But will any fair-minded man claim that the power to decide the naked question of fact, whether an individual does or does not possess certain specified qualifications, implies the power to prescribe the qualifications them-selves? What would be thought of a judge who, in trying a felon, should give a new definition of the felony, and make that a crime which the law did not so regard? What a howl of indicnation would be raised! And yet his usurpation would not, in our judgment, be one whit greater than that of Congress in the premises. They may inquire into the elections and ascertain wlether they have been held in accordance with law; they may inquire into the returns and ascertain whether they are genuine or forged, whether they are in proper form or not; and they may inquire whether a member elect has or has not the qualifications prescribed in the Constitution, but they can no more alter them than they can change the tenure of their own office. And they know full well that their attempt to do so is a gross and palpable usurpation of powers never intended to be conferred

The Northern Pacific Railroad.

From the World. We understand that the House Committee on the Pacific Bailroad have perfected a bill in aid of a raffroad from Lake Superior to Puget Sound, which is the beginning of a new policy on the part of Government. Our readers do not need to be informed that, in our judgment, building railroads is no part of the business of a Government, however desirable it may be that railroads should be built. But such are not the opinions prevalent in the national councils, and strict constructionists can only hope to mitigate as much as possible the expense and the injustice of such stretches of the governmental sphere. In this case the committee take the ground that railroads mu-t be built, not with money from the Treasury, but by private enter-prise, and that whatever aid may be given by the Government, there must be reimborsemen on the part of the company. The provisions of the bill are as follows:- The company must build twenty-five miles of first-class railroad and telegraph line.

When that is done, when it is accepted by the Government, the Company is to have the interest of its stock at six per cent, on a fixed amount per mile, guaranteed for twenty years. At the same time the Government reserves one-half of the proceeds of the lands, which, by the charter, have been granted to the Company, also twenty-five per cent, of the gross earnings until the reimbursement is complete. The Com-pany are prohibited from issuing any bonds, and hey are to construct their road with American iron. The capital stock of the Company is one nundred millions, but the amount of stock on which the interest is guaranteed will be only about fifty-seven millions, to be determined by the length of the road when the same shall have been located. The interest of sixty millions is three million four hundred and twenty thousand, to be paid out per annum when the road is completed.

The friends of this road fin, as they think, in the report of the Commissioner of Public Lands, proof that the Government will be reimbursed long before the twon y years' guarantee has expired. About six hundred thousand acres of land were taken up in Minnesota alone during 1865, mostly along the line of radroads now in progress. This, at two dollars and a half per acre, the minimum price fixed by Congress on the lands among the Northern line, would yield niteen hundred thousand dollars. Suppose that the Company should put down two hundred miles during the next twelve months, on which the interest is guaranteed at the rate of twenty thousand dollars per mile, the interest would be two hundred and forty thousand dollars only. Now, if a like amount of lands were disposed of during that time as were sold last year, the Treasury would acquire a surplus of twelve hundred and sixty thousand dollars. The sale even of one hundred and fifty-six sections (100,000 acres) of the land which has been granted to the Company is expected to reimburse the Gov ernment for its aid in constructing the two hun dred miles. The highest amount per mile guaranteed in the mountain section is only fity thousand dollars. The friends of the road thus consider that the Government is not only secured from loss by the provisions of this bill, but that there is a 200d prospect of a large venue from lands which will remain worthless till a railroad is built.

Among the gentlemen engaged in this enterof the country:—Hon. J. Gregory Smith, late Governor of Vermont, and President of the Ver-mont and Canada line; Hon. Onslow Stearns, President of the Northern New Hampshire; George Stark, Manager of the Boston and Lowell; Hon. E. S. Tobey, President of the North American and Liverpool Steamship Com-pany, and other gentlemen of New York and the Northwest.

A movement is on foot by English capitalists to open a line from Lake Superior to British Columbia, wholly through British territory. The richness of the Cariboo mines, the fertility of the Saskatchawan country, and the necessity of binding the Provinces together in connection with the confederation scheme, has awakened

new zeal upon the subject.

It is the intention of the managers of the Northern Pacific to engage in their work at once, and push it to a speedy completion, provided aid is granted by the Government. The grant of land which has already been made is liberal; but in these times, with the Government in the money market, paying seven and three-tenths per cent, for money, it is idle for a private company to expect to obtain one hundred millions of capital for such an enterprise; but, with a guarantee for the payment of the interest for a term of years, they think the

capital can be readily obtained. The proposed road runs through a section of country separated from Colorado, Utah, and Nevada by a high mountain range. It is from five to seven andred miles distant from the Central. There is no antagonism between the two lines. Both will be useful. Montana con-tains thirty thousand inhabitants. Cities and villages are springing up all over the territory at the headwaters of the Missouri. The rush of at the headwaters of the Missouri. The rush of emigration to that section is unparalleled. Halliday's stages are crowded as never before, About fifty steamers are to leave St. Louis in April for the upper Missouri! Emigrant trains are fitting out in Minnesota and Iowa. General Pope has found it necessary to issue orders regulating their movements, to protect them from the Indians. It is a twenty-four days ride overland, by stage, to Virginia City (1700 miles). Ev river the time is forty days, and the distance 2400 miles; by enjoyant train, sixty. But by the 2400 miles; by en igrant train, sixty. But by the proposed railroad the time will be shortened to thirty-six hours from St. Pauli Idaho, Washington, and Oregon would doubtless be greatly benefited by the opening of such a road.

-Of the books published (or reprinted) in this country last year, 222 were Theological, 165 His torical, 129 Poetical, 113 Novels, 117 Works for torical, 129 Poetical, 113 Novels, 117 Works for the Young, 99 Biographical, 77 Medical, 67 Legal, 66 Geographical (including Books of Travel), 53 Commercial, 45 Political, 38 Philological, 35 treat on Natural History, 43 cm General and Practical Science, 34 on Military Matters (in ad-dition to 186 named in a list of American Military Books), 22 on Agriculture, 20 on Navigation and Naval Science, 20 on Theory and Practice of Education, 19 on Conchology, 13 on Philosophy and Metaphysics, 13 on Mathematics, 12 on Geo-logy, 11 on Photography, 10 on Freemasonry, 5 on Architecture, 4 on Biography, 3 on Astro-nomy, and the remainder on criticism, belles-lettres, etc. lettres, etc.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

UNITED STATES TREASURY. 199 WEILAUREPRIA, April 20, 1865. Rolders of ewenty coupons and unwarus of United States I ouns due May 1, 1866, are hereby notined that they may present them for examination and count at this office on sud af er the 23d inst to be paid on and after May 1, 1866. Flank schedules may be obtained at this office

Assistant Treasurer. United States. "THE SAFE DEPOSIT COMPANY OF

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(parles Bacalester Alexander Henry Lohn Weish, Adoith Borle, Charles Berle, George A. Woot, Joseph B. Townsend, George M. Troutman, hardes Wheeler, William C. Kent.

M. W. Haldwin, Lanc Lea.

San nel B. Shipley.

CAMDEN AND AMBOY RAILROAD
AND TRANSPORTATION COMPANY'S
OFFICE, Berdentown, March 28, 1896.
NOTICE.—The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders
of the CAMDEN AND AMBOY RAILBOAD AND
TRANSPORTATION COMPANY will be held at the
Company's office in BORDIENTOWN on SATURDAY,
the 28th of April 1896, at 12 o'clock M., toy the olection
of seven Directors, to serve for the ensuing year.
3 20 14 28 SAMULL J. BAYARD, Secretary.

BIERSTADT'S LAST WORK-"STORM IN THE BOCKY MOUNTAINS"—new on exhibition by permission of the Artist for the Benefit of the 'Lincolu Institution and Soldiers' and Sui cre' Orphan Boys' Home," at WENDEBOTH, TAYLOR & BROWN'S, Nos. 917 and 814 CHE'NU" Street, for one mouth enly. Open from 10 A, M, to 10 P M.

Season Ticket, 81-00 Single Ticket 25 cents. [4 21 Im

OFFICE OF THE LEHIGH COAL AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

PHILADEIPHIA, April 21, 1856.

The Stated Annual Meeting of the Stockhelders of this Company will be held at the Board of Trade Rooms, north side of CHENNUT Street above Fight on TUE-DAY MORNING, the last day of May count, at nal-past 10 ofcock, after which an election will beheld at the same clace for officers of the Company or the ensuing year. The election to close at 1 P. M. of the same day. he same day. JAMES S. COX. President.

ELECTION NOTICE, -THE ANNUAL ELECTION NOTICE.—THE ANNUAL meeting of the Stockholders of he Central Passenger Bailway Company, o the city of Philade pnia, will be held at the office of the company No 246 south 1866 between the hours of 9 and 11 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of electing a President and six Directors to serve for the ensuing year. L. J. CRANS, Secretary April 23 1866.

NEW LONDON COPPER MINING
COMPANY.
The Adjourned Annual Meeting of Stockholders for
Flection on Directors to serve the ensuing year with te
held ON FRIDAY, APRIL 27.
At the Office of the President
No. 417 ARt in STREET
At 330 P. M.
SECCETARY.

EAGLE MINING COMPANY,—A Meeting of the Stockholders of the Eagle Mining Company wil be held at the WETHERILL GOUSE. No. 683 Sansom street, on THURSDAY EVENING 28th inst, at 725 o'clock Punctual attendance is requested. Business of importance.

4 4 3 3**

JOHN S. THACKKAY, Trustee.

AMERICAN KAOLIN COMPANY .-THILADELPHIA, April 29, 1805.—The annual Meeting of Stockholders will be held at the office of he company, No 23 S. [HIRD Street on TUESDAY, May 8, at 12 o'clock M, when an election will be held or five Directors to serve for the ensuing year.
4 21 swelt
1. B. ENGLISH. Secretary.

DINING-ROOM. -F. LAKEMEYER, CARTER'S Aley, would respectfully inform the Public generally that he has lettnething unione to make this place comfortable in every respect for the accommodation of guests. He has opened a large and commodation of guests. He has opened a large and commodation being. From in the second story. His SIDE BOARD is surnished with ERANDES, WINES, WISKY, Etc. Ftc. of SUPERIOR BRANDS.

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married and those contempating marriage who entermarri d and those contemp ating marriage who entertain doubts of their physical condition. Sent free of postage to any address, on receipt of 25 cents in stamps or postal currency, by addressing Dr. LA CROIX No. 31 f AlDEN Lane albany, N. Y.

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We have carefully tested the sample of CHESNUT GROVE WHISKY which you send us, and find that it contains none or the Poisonous Substance known as FISIL OIL, which is the characteristic and injurious in gredient of the whiskies in general use.

BOOTH, GARRETT & CAMAC,
Analytical Chemists.

NEW YORK, September 3, 1858.

1 have analyzed a sample of CHESNUT GROVE V HISKY received from Mr Charles Wharton, Jr., of Phindelphia: and having carefully tested it, I am pleased to state that it is entire y pare Prom Porsonous or Delevishous substances. It is an unusually pure and fine-flavored quality of whisky.

JAMES R. CHILTON, M. D.,

Analytical Chemist.

Analytical Chemist.

Boston, March 7, 1859.

I have made a chemissi analysis of commercial samples of CHESNUT GROVE WHISKY, which proves to be free from the heavy Fusil Ohs, and perfectly pure and unudulerated. The fine flavor of this whisky is derived from the grain used in manufacturing it.

Respectfully, A. A. HAYES, M. D., State Assayer, No. 16 Boylston street.

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